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LeMahieu Raffle Reform Bill Passes State Legislature

Madison – Senator Devin LeMahieu (R-Oostburg) issued the following statement after the Senate's vote to pass Assembly Bill 14, the Raffle Reform Bill:

"During my campaign last fall, time and time again members of various non-profit organizations approached me with concerns about the current raffle process in our state. Mostly, they didn't understand why their ideas and attempts to raise money for their charities were deemed illegal. For that reason I was proud to make the Raffle Reform Bill the first bill that I have authored as a State Senator."

"According to the Department of Administration, over 8,600 organizations hold a raffle license in our state. Organizations such as local VFW posts, fire departments, conservation groups, lions clubs, and other service organizations that all count on revenue from raffles to aid their cause. Money that, whether it be through scholarships or wildlife preservation, is required by law to be directly invested into serving our communities."

"Unfortunately, our current raffle rules and regulations are confusing and over-burdensome to many organizations. The Raffle Reform Bill streamlines, updates, and improves the charitable raffle process in our state, making it easier for non-profit organizations to conduct raffles, while maintaining transparency and fairness."

"I would like to thank Representative Mike Kuglitsch (R- New Berlin), former State Senator Joe Leibham, and the Sheboygan County Conservation Coalition for championing this issue. Their hard work and dedication over the past year and a half made this legislation possible."

Assembly Bill 14 passed both the State Assembly and Senate by bi-partisan voice votes. The legislation is now available to be signed into law by Governor Scott Walker.

Senator Devin LeMahieu represents the 9th Senate District, which includes parts of Sheboygan, Manitowoc, and Calumet Counties.

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